

CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) An air blower apparatus for use in an inspection apparatus, said air blower apparatus comprising an air blowing device for blowing air via an air filter to a recording medium being measured and to a recording apparatus for recording data on the recording medium, wherein said air blowing device comprises:

- (a) a fan unit provided above said recording medium; and
- (b) a fan unit housing provided above said fan unit, said fan unit housing including a first buffer space having an inlet port directed substantially downwardly toward said recording medium, said first buffer space temporarily accumulating air inhaled from said inlet port,

wherein said fan unit inhales air from said inlet port that faces said first buffer space, discharges inhaled air at a substantially constant air flow rate to deliver the air via an air filter from an outlet port to said recording medium by means of a fan, and the discharged air is deflected onto said recording medium and returns to said inlet port, thereby not only forming a circulation path of a flow of air, the flow of air flowing from said first buffer space via said inlet port, said fan, said air filter, said outlet port, said recording medium and said inlet port and returning to said first buffer space, but also inhaling outside air from said inlet port, whereby a temperature distribution in the vicinity of said recording medium is maintained substantially constant, and

wherein the air blower apparatus further comprises a second buffer space

provided between said fan and said air filter and within said fan unit,
said second buffer space temporarily accumulating the air discharged
from said fan so as to provide a high pressure state.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The air blower apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fan is a blower ~~type~~ fan, which blows and discharges air from said inlet port substantially in a horizontal direction.

4. (Original) The air blower apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said air filter is a high efficiency particulate air filter.

5. (Original) The air blower apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a panel provided at at least one place on a side of said recording medium, said panel preventing outside air from flowing directly to said recording medium.

6. (Original) The air blower apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said recording medium is a hard disk recording medium, and wherein said recording apparatus includes a magnetic head.

7. (Currently amended) An inspection apparatus housing comprising:

an air blower apparatus for use in an inspection apparatus; and

a recording apparatus for recording data on said recording medium, wherein said air blower apparatus comprises an air blowing device for blowing air via an air filter

to a recording medium being measured and to said recording apparatus,

wherein said air blowing device comprises:

- (a) a fan unit provided above said recording medium; and
- (b) a fan unit housing provided above said fan unit, said fan unit housing including a first buffer space having an inlet port directed substantially downwardly toward said recording medium, said first buffer space temporarily accumulating air inhaled from said inlet port,

wherein said fan unit inhales air from said inlet port that faces said first buffer space, discharges inhaled air at a substantially constant air flow rate to deliver the air via an air filter from an outlet port to said recording medium by means of a fan, and the discharged air is reflected on said recording medium and returns to said inlet port, thereby not only forming a circulation path of a flow of air, the flow of air flowing from said first buffer space via said inlet port, said fan, said air filter, said outlet port, said recording medium and said inlet port and returning to said first buffer space, but also inhaling outside air from said inlet port, whereby a temperature distribution in the vicinity of said recording medium is maintained to be substantially constant, and

wherein the air blower apparatus further comprises a second buffer space provided between said fan and said air filter and within said fan unit, said second buffer space temporarily accumulating the air discharged from said fan so as to provide a high pressure state.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently amended) The inspection apparatus housing as claimed in claim 7, wherein said fan is a blower ~~type~~ fan, which blows and discharges air from said inlet port substantially in a horizontal direction.

10. (Original) The inspection apparatus housing as claimed in claim 7, wherein said air filter is a high efficiency particulate air filter.

11. (Original) The inspection apparatus housing as claimed in claim 7, further comprising a panel provided at at least one place on a side of said recording medium, said panel preventing outside air from flowing directly to said recording medium.

12. (Original) The inspection apparatus housing as claimed in claim 7, wherein said recording medium is a hard disk recording medium, and wherein said recording apparatus includes a magnetic head.